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Department of State

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TELEGRAM

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 SY-05 SAM-01

SCCT-01 CIAE-00 INR

SP-02 DHA-02 SCA-01 NSC-05 PM-04 CPR-01 /091 R

DRAFTED BY EUR:SOV:LWILLEMS:REH

APPROVED BY NEA:ARDA

IO/UNP - CCUTTER

EUR - JAARMITAGE

M - WEGAN

S/S-MR. ORTIZ

S/PRS- ROBERT FUNSETH

NEA/IAI:MDSTERNBERG

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P R 122027Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY MDC/hm DATE 3-13-81

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____

TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, ASEC, UR, IS, US

SUBJECT: APPROACH BY RABBI KAHANE

REF: TEL AVIV 3210

1. IF KAHANE REQUESTS SECOND MEETING TO HAND OVER LIST DESCRIBED REFTEL, EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM HIM IT HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED BY DEPARTMENT NOT TO ACCEPT LIST FROM HIM. IF HE MAELS LIST TO EMBASSY, YOU SHOULD SEND REPLY STATING THAT DEPARTMENT HAS INSTRUCTED YOU TO INFORM HIM THAT LIST WILL NOT RPT NOT BE FORWARDED BY USG TO SOVIET GOVERNMENT.

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2. IF KAHANE GOES TO
IT MAY DRAW FROM FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE
BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ON IF-ASKED BASIS: QUESTION DID
NOT ARISE AT MAY 11 NEWS BRIEFING.

Q. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT RABBI KAHANE CALLED AT OUR EMBAS-
SY IN TEL AVIV?

A. YES, ON MAY 10 HE CALLED AT THE EMBASSY AND TALKED
WITH A CONSULAR OFFICER. KAHANE IS A US CITIZEN, AND OUR
EMBASSY RECEIVED HIM ON THAT BASIS.

Q. CAN YOU COMMENT ON THE REPORT THAT KAHANE WANTS TO
MAKE A DEAL WHEREBY THE DEPARTMENT WILL FORWARD TO THE
SOVIET GOVERNMENT A LIST OF SOVIET JEWS SEEKING EXIT
VISAS WHO ARE OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO KAHANE, AND IN RETURN
KAHANE WILL ASK THE JEWISH ARMED RESISTANCE IN NEW YORK
FOR A MORATORIUM ON VIOLENCE AGAINST SOVIET DIPLOMATS?

A. KAHANE INFORMED OUR CONSULAR OFFICER IN TEL AVIV THAT
THE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE PERPETRATING THE VIOLENCE IN NEW
YORK ARE MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH ARMED RESISTANCE. HE
FURTHER EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE GROUP WOULD LISTEN
TO HIM IF HE PUBLICLY ASKED FOR A MORATORIUM ON VIOLENCE
WHICH HE IS PREPARED TO DO. IF KAHANE, IN FACT, WIELDS
THE INFLUENCE HE SAYS HE DOES WE WOULD EXPECT HIM TO
TAKE SOME SORT OF CONSTRUCTIVE ACTION REGARDING THE SITUA-
TION IN NEW YORK. VIOLENCE WILL NOT HELP THE CAUSE OF
THOSE WHO WISH TO EMIGRATE. THE IDEA THAT IT CAN BE USED
TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS IS NOT ONLY OFFENSIVE BUT
DANGEROUS. FURTHERMORE, THERE IS NOTHING TO INDICATE
THAT THE JEWISH DEFENSE LEAGUE HAS ACTED AS A RESPONSIBLE
ORGANIZATION ATTEMPTING TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN
EMIGRATION MATTERS. THE US GOVERNMENT WILL NOT PUT IT-
SELF IN A POSITION OF BARGAINING WITH PEOPLE'S LIVES
OR NEGOTIATING WITH THOSE WHO CONDONE VIOLENCE.

Q. IS THE DEPARTMENT WILLING TO PASS ON KAHANE'S LIST
OF NAMES TO THE SOVIETS?

A. NO, WE ARE NOT.

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Q. IS IT TRUE THE DEPARTMENT HAS AGREED TO MEET WITH SOME JDL LEADERS FROM NEW YORK?

A. ON MAY 3 THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE RECEIVED A CABLE FROM THE JDL WHICH READ AS FOLLOWS: "IT SEEMS AS THOUGH BOMBINGS WILL NOT STOP UNTIL SOVIET JEWS ARE GRANTED FREEDOM TO EMIGRATE. WE REQUEST URGENT MEETING BEFORE SOVIET DIPLOMATS ARE KIDNAPPED OR KILLED." IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SAME MESSAGE WAS SIMULTANEOUSLY TRANSMITTED TO AMBASSADOR MALIK IN NEW YORK AND TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY HERE IN WASHINGTON. THE JDL IN NEW YORK WAS GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW UP ON THEIR MESSAGE BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO INDICATION THAT THEY ARE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN ANY SORT OF CONSTRUCTIVE MEETING AND NO SUCH MEETING HAS TAKEN PLACE.

Q. IS IT TRUE AS REP
AGREED TO RECEIVE THEM TO NEGOTIATE A DEAL BY WHICH THE DEPARTMENT WOULD STEP UP ITS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF SOVIET JEWRY AND THE JDL WOULD USE ITS INFLUENCE TO SUSPEND VIOLENT ACTS AGAINST SOVIET DIPLOMATS?

A. NO. THE DEPARTMENT HAS NO INTENTION OF "NEGOTIATING, WITH THE JDL.

Q. IS IT TRUE AN OFFICER FROM THE SOVIET DESK MET WITH JDL MEMBERS IN MARCH?

A. THAT IS TRUE -- A WORKING-LEVEL OFFICER FROM THE DEPARTMENT, WHO WAS IN NEW YORK TALKING TO VARIOUS AGENCIES AND PERSONS CONCERNED WITH THE SECURITY OF SOVIET DIPLOMATS, MET WITH SOME PEOPLE FROM THE JDL AND INFORMED THEM OF THE DEPARTMENT'S STRONG VIEWS THAT THREATS AND HARASSMENT DIRECTED AT SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN THE US WERE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS AND DO NOT ADVANCE SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION. KISSINGER

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